For he is gracious, if he be observed[3];
He hath a tear for pity, and a hand [4]
Open as day for melting charity:
Yet notwithstanding, being incens'd, he's flint:
As humorous as winter[5], and as sudden
As flaws congealed in the spring of day [6].

[3] — if he be OBSERVED ;] i. e. if he has respectful attention shown to him. So, in The Merry Wives of Windsor :

" Followed her with doting *observance*" STEEVENS.

4 He hath a tear for pity, and a hand, &c.] So, in our author's Lover's Complaint:

> His qualities were beauteous as his form,
> For maiden-tongu'd he was, and thereof free:
> Yet, *if men mov'd him*, was he such a *storm*
> As oft 'twixt May and April is to see,
> When winds breathe sweet, unruly though they be."

MALONE.

[5] — HUMOROUS as winter.] That is, changeable as the weather of a winter's day. Dryden says of Almanzor, that he is humorous as wind. JOHNSON.

So, in The Spanish Tragedy, 1607 :

" You know that women oft are *humourous*."

Again, in Cynthia's Revels, by Ben Jonson : " — a nymph of a most wandering and giddy disposition, *humourous as the air*>"

&c.

Again, in The Silent Woman : [6] — as proud as May, and as *humourous* as April." STEEVENS.

[<e] As humorous as *April*" is sufficiently clear. So, in Heywood's Challenge for Beauty, 1636 : " I am as full of *humours* as an *April* day of variety: " but a *winter's* day has generally too decided a character to admit Dr. Johnson's interpretation, without some licence: a licence which yet our author has perhaps taken. He may, however, have used the word *humorous* equivocally. He abounds in capricious fancies, as winter abounds in moisture.

MALONE.

[6] — congealed in the spring of day.] Alluding to the opinion of some philosophers, that the vapours being congealed in the air by cold, (which is most intense towards the morning,) and being afterwards rarified and let loose by the warmth of the sun, occasion those sudden and impetuous gusts of wind which are called *flaws*"

WARBURTON.

So, Ben Jonson, in The Case is Alter'd:

'* Still wrack'd with winds more foul and contrary
*' Than any northern gust or southern *flam*"